

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
ARIZONA STATE SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND
UNCONFIRMED
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

March 6, 2008
Hoag Learning Resource Center
ASDB Tucson Campus
1200 W. Speedway Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85754

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Board President Orlenda Roberts at approximately 5:17 p.m.

Members Present: Orlenda Roberts, Juan Pablo Guzman, Sami Hamed, Sherri Collins, Ray Mungaray, Frank Hernandez

Members Absent: Michael Williams, Arizona Department of Education Representative, Vacancy due to term expiration of Annette Winfield

The Board agreed to move agenda item III.A ahead of public comment due to time commitments of presenter.

III. Business Agenda Items

A. Approval to Adjust the Asset Allocation of Trust Funds for Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Juan Pablo Guzman, seconded by Ray Mungaray, and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors go ahead with what the Board Finance Committee is recommending to the Board to approve the plan to adjust the asset allocation as recommended by Pathways Financial.

Brian Murphy of Pathways Financial presented a history of the rate of return on the portfolio, discussed present distribution of portfolio funds, and recommendation to further diversify to reduce costs and risks.

Juan Pablo Guzman, Ray Mungaray, and Sami Hamed spoke to the issue.

II. Public Comment on Agenda and/or Non-Agenda Items **

Board President Orlenda Roberts read aloud the rules of public comment and limited comment to two minutes for individual speakers.

Lee Ortega, union representative, spoke re HB2035 and 2499 and requested vote of neutrality on these bills until impact and costs are provided by Superintendent.

Doris Woltman, ASDB SER employee, spoke to the January 28, 2008 communication and hardship pay, expressed desire to be included in discussions before any decisions made on the two issues.

Karen Vanderbilt, ASDB Transportation Employee, spoke re ASDB's Legislative agenda, ASDB Transportation employee, re impact of policy changes due to turnover in superintendents and

feels there would be protection under the new legislation; and requested pay for employees who travel to legislature to support bills.

Ruth Kartchner, commented on deaf education around the world, feels that low expectations are limiting students, and the need for improvement in deaf education.

Kathryn Kreimeyer, U of A employee, spoke re SER leadership and the impact of the lack of resolution on the placement of U of A interns at SER.

Cassandra Hart, ASDB SER Coop, expressed concerns about the problems she is learning about and concerns about losing good people looking for jobs elsewhere.

Ronald B. Hazelett-Weeks, spoke re the separation of deaf and blind schools and moving the ASDB school for the blind to other land owned by ASDB.

Vivian Bahe, parent of former student, need to better prepare the kids, the need to better educate parents on IEP meetings, City of Tucson resources are not helping daughter, sad to hear that teachers are required to serve a three-year probation.

Terri Bahe, former ASDB student, expressed past concerns with past education at ASDB and the "you can't" messages given to her.

Lisa Foust, ASDB SER employee, expressed concern that there has been no resolution to SER Coop matters and that SER interpreters have been left to flounder.

Pia Benson, ASDB SER employee, requested that the current situation of SER be placed on the April agenda or consider a special session, lack of supervision, no progress from central administration, silence of Board and ask for involvement.

Andre Nutbrown, ASDB, spoke re holiday pay and feels it was unfair to be taken away without warning.

Shirin Antia, U of A employee, spoke regarding the difficulty placing U of A graduates at SER due to the stressful situation involving lack of SER leadership and requested the situation be resolved soon.

Sarah Ethington, ASDB SER employee, Amy Franks read a communication from Sarah Ethington, expressing concern with lack of support due to irresponsible decision by the Board and Superintendent to prolong absence of SER staff and is waiting for supervisors to be brought back.

Jeanne Hollabaugh, mother of a child who receives services from SER interpreters, questioned if other parents know what is happening and expressed concerns about how the excellence of SER interpreters will continue without supervision, support, and in-service training.

Ray Ramirez, ASDB Maintenance employee, spoke re his concern for removal of holiday pay for food service and transportation and requested the Board place this item on their agenda.

Karen Feldman, ASDB SER employee, expressed concerns with statements made by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent at the SER Cooperative Advisory Council meeting and asked the Board to hold them accountable.

Siana Chana, ASDB SER employee, expressed concerns that no disciplinarian is available at SER so employees are not being held accountable, and emphasized the importance of evaluations.

Vanessa Martinez, ASDB SER employee, spoke to the role of ASDB Governing Board, the impact of the lack of SER leadership, and the importance of completing evaluations to receive Prop 301 monies.

Jennie Peterson, ASDB SER employee, expressed not knowing what needs to be said to bring supervisors back and expressed concern for the lack of support at SER, and commented on completing evaluations for interpreters to receive Prop 301 funding.

Doris Woltman, ASDB SER employee, spoke to responsibilities of the Board, the concern that she is being blamed for lack of action, the events of four years ago where the Board made a difficult decision involving the former Superintendent, the need for this Board to be brave, and her concerns for the future of ASDB.

Lee Ortega commented re the pay increase for transportation and food service employees that she believes did not equalize the removal holiday pay, requested the Board to reverse the action that removed holiday pay, and expressed concern for the pay increase given to the Superintendent.

Mary Joe Munis, ASDB SER employee, expressed concerns with the lack of follow up by the Board, performance of the Superintendent and members of his administration, and the loss of qualified interpreters.

Dave Karas, ASDB PDSD employee, handed out documentation regarding the increase in student numbers in Phoenix and requested a shift of funds from Tucson campus to Phoenix campus, and requested the Board conduct a study session to discuss this matter.

Judy Robbins, ASDB PDSD employee, requested that the Board conduct two meetings per month rather than one per month.

Erica Perry, ASDB SER employee, expressed concern with ASDB's use of Garrity in internal investigations.

Tracy Wilson, ASDB graduate, expressed concern that education for the deaf is better elsewhere and asked the Board to listen to the issues and pay attention to the parents as well as the students.

III. Business Agenda Items

- B. Update Regarding the Investigation into the January 28, 2008 Communication Made Pursuant to Board Policy GBP for Consideration and Possible Action

In the absence of Mr. Williams, Board President Orlenda Roberts provided a brief summary of the progress in finding an investigator, and explained the State's procurement process that must be followed.

Ray Mungaray, Juan Pablo Guzman, Orlenda Roberts, Sami Hamed, and Frank Hernandez spoke to the issue.

C. Approval to Expend Trust Funds for Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Juan Pablo Guzman, seconded by Ray Mungaray and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors approves the use of FY 08 allocated Trust Funds as recommended by the Board Finance Committee.

\$5,000.00 ASD Academic – trip to the National Science Fair, Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York

\$1,200.00 SER Academic – supplies and equipment to enhance and expand learning and educational opportunities

D. Second Reading and Adoption of Section J Policies, Students for Consideration and Possible Action – (Exhibit 3)

It was moved by Sherri Collins, seconded by Ray Mungaray, and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors adopt Section J policy revisions as submitted and recommended by the Superintendent.

Sherri Collins, Harold Hoff, Dorinda Rife, Sue Hunter, and Judy Robbins spoke to the issue.

E. Granting of Right-Of-Way Easement to Tucson Electric Power Company for Consideration and Possibly Action

It was moved by Sami Hamed, seconded by Frank Hernandez, and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors approve granting the right-of-way easement to Tucson Electric Power Company to provide electric service to 1220 W. Speedway Blvd.

F. ASDB's Legislative Agenda, HB 2035, HB 2499, and HB 2657 for Consideration and Possible Action

Sherri Collins, Ray Mungaray, Juan Pablo Guzman, Orlenda Roberts, Sami Hamed, Frank Hernandez and Harold Hoff spoke to the issue.

Mr. Hamed stated for the record that during the Board Legislative Committee he took a neutral position on HB 2035.

It was moved by Sami Hamed that this item be tabled but the motion was not seconded.

It was moved by Frank Hernandez that the Board of Directors not take a position on HB 2035 and remain neutral, seconded by Juan Pablo Guzman.

With a motion and second on the table, Juan Pablo Guzman called for the question which was carried with a vote of four in favor, two opposed (Orlenda Roberts and Sherri Collins).

The motion and second on the table was carried with a vote of four in favor, one opposed (Sherri Collins), and one abstention (Orlenda Roberts).

Sherri Collins stated for the record that she does not want to jeopardize the agency, is concerned that the bill will move forward if the Board remains neutral, and is disappointed in the quality of the conversation among Board members.

It was moved by Orlenda Roberts, seconded by Ray Mungaray, that the Board of Directors request the ASDB Board Legislative Committee to develop a list of questions to get answers.

Mr. Hamed made a friendly amendment to the motion on the table that the Board Legislative Committee makes a request to the JLBC to attach a fiscal note to this bill. The friendly amendment was declined by Ms. Roberts.

Mr. Hamed stated that due to lack of acceptance of the friendly amendment, he was making a substitute motion that the Legislative Committee goes back to formulate questions on the bill and in addition to that the Legislative Committee will ask the JLBC to attach a fiscal note to HB 2035.

Upon discussion, motions on the table were removed without vote with agreement by the Board that the Board Legislative Committee continues their work on studying HB2035.

IV. Consent Agenda for Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Juan Pablo Guzman, seconded by Frank Hernandez and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors approve the Consent Agenda items A and B.

- A. Confirmation of February 7, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of Contracts and/or Agreements with Ganado Unified School District, Arlington Elementary School District, Litchfield Elementary School District and Murphy Elementary School District.

V. Superintendent's Report for Consideration and Possible Action

A. Summary of Current Events

Harold Hoff provided a summary of current events including building construction progress, dormitory leak, and enrollment. Sami Hamed and Frank Hernandez spoke to the issue.

B. Monthly Financial Review

Harold Hoff reviewed the financial status of the agency. Frank Hernandez and Juan Pablo Guzman spoke to the issue.

C. Removal of Interpreter Hardship Supplement

Harold Hoff provided a report on the removal of the Interpreter Hardship Supplement. Sami Hamed, Orlenda Roberts and Doris Woltman spoke to the issue.

D. Special Report – Professional Leadership Academy

Linda Gonzalez, Professional Development Specialist, reported what is happening in professional development, with the support of Harold Hoff and Robert Hill and their expressed goal to be improvement of student achievement, including training of teachers, mentor protégé program, and three-year training with the Professional Leadership Development Academy, an agent of Department of Education.

Frank Hernandez, Orlenda Roberts, Sami Hamed, Sherri Collins, Judy Robbins, Dave Karas, Pia Benson, and Tina Neumann spoke to the issue.

VI. Adjournment

It was moved by Juan Pablo Guzman, seconded by Sami Hamed, that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

EXHIBIT 3 - SECTION J POLICIES

Old Code	New Code	Title	Revision Type	Summary of Revisions
NEW	JA	Student Policies Goals/Priority Objectives	NEW	New Policy
JB	JB	Equal Educational Opportunities	MINOR	“Handicap” to “disability”; Legal Refs; Cross Refs.
JB-E	JB-E	Equal Educational Opportunities (Complaint Form)	Exhibit	Adds email address; Caps to lower case; Numbers in ().
JB-R	JB-R	Equal Educational Opportunities	Regulation	Schools to ASDB; “Procedure” to “regulation”; Rewording; Adds complaint procedures as related to teacher or an administrator, support staff employee, and student
JE	JE	Student Attendance	MINOR	Sections: Student Absences & Excuses and When Absent from School were moved to Policy JH, Legal Refs., Cross Refs.
JE-R(1)	JE-RA	Student Attendance	Regulation	Schools to ASDB, Caps to lower case, SHC to Student Health Center, Numbers spelled out and In (), “live-in” to “residential”, eliminated “no credit

Old Code	New Code	Title	Revision Type	Summary of Revisions
				will be given for this work".
JR-R(2)	JE-RC	Student Attendance (Absence Notification)	Regulation	Split into two Regs. Absence Notification; Schools to ASDB,
JEB	JEB	Entrance Age	SUBSTANTIVE	Adds parents choice of half-day or full-day kindergarten, Gives Board the right to admit children who do not meet state age requirements; Title; "Handicapped" to "disability", Numbers in (), Schools to ASDB, Rewording, Legal refs., Cross Refs.
JECB	JFAB	Tuition/Admission of Nonresident Students	MINOR	Title, Schools to ASDB, Rewording, "School Board of Directors" to "Board", Cross Refs.
NEW	JFABC	Admission of Transfer Students	NEW	New Policy
NEW	JFBA	Unsafe School Choice	NEW	New Policy
NEW	JFBA-E	Unsafe School Choice (Definitions & Examples)	Exhibit	New Exhibit
JECE	JFC	Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts	MINOR	Title, Rewording, Schools to ASDB, Eliminates "Expulsion or long term suspension; Leg. Refs., Cross Refs.
JEDA	JHB	Truancy	MINOR	Statute revised: Definition of term "truant", Reduces time from 10 to 5 days of unexcused absence to constitute truancy. "Unauthorized" to "unexcused", States specific disciplinary actions.
JEFB	JHCB	Released Time for Religious Instruction	MINOR	Schools to ASDB; "School Administration" to "Principals/Directors", eliminates annual evaluation by principals/directors and board".
JEFB-R	JHCB-R	Released Time for Religious Instruction	<i>Regulation</i>	Schools to ASDB, "Instructional services Office" and "Directors of Instructional Services" to "Principal/Director.
JEG	JHD	Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance (Chronic Health Conditions)	SUBSTANTIVE	Caps to lower case; Schools to ASDB; "Procedures" to "regulations", Rewording; Leg. Refs. Homework responsibility and physical education activity

Old Code	New Code	Title	Revision Type	Summary of Revisions
				requirements have been removed.
JEG-R		Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance (Chronic Health Conditions)	Regulation Eliminated	
JEG-E(1)	JHD-EA	Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance	Exhibit	Numbers spelled out and in ().
JEG-E(2)	JHD-EB	Medical Certification	Exhibit	Caps to lower case
JEG-E(3)	JHD-EC	Instructional Agreement	Exhibit	Caps to lower case; Principal to Principal/Director.
JFA	JIA	Student Due-Process Rights	MINOR	Cross Refs.
ABC	JIB	Student Involvement in Decision Making	MINOR	Schools to ASDB, "Personnel" to "employees", Cross Refs.
NEW	JIBA	Student Government	NEW	New Policy
JFC	JIC	Student Conduct	MINOR	Schools to ASDB, "Staff" to "employees", Rewording, "Administrators and/or principals" to "Principals/Directors for their individual schools", Legal refs. Cross Refs.
JFCA	JICA	Student Dress	MINOR	Title, "Procedures" to "school regulations", Legal refs., Cross Refs.
JFCA-R	JICA-R	Student Dress	Regulation	Title, Schools to ASDB, Caps to lower case, Numbers in ().
JFCB	JICB	Care of School Property by Students	MINOR	Schools to ASDB, "Suspension" to "discipline", Legal Refs, Cross Refs.
JFCC	JICC	Student Conduct on School Buses	MINOR	Cross Refs. Policy has been moved and recoded to EEAECE.
IGDB	JICE	Student Publications	MINOR	Schools to ASDB, Rewording, Leg. Refs. Formerly Policy IGDB.
IGDB-R	JICE-R	Student Publications	Regulation	"Principal" to "Principal/Director, Formerly IGDB-R.
JFCE	JICF	Secret Societies/ Gang Activity	MINOR	Schools to ASDB, Rewording, "Staff members" to "employees", Legal Refs., Cross Refs.
JFCE-R	JICF-R	Secret Societies/ Gang Activity	Regulation	"Specific policies" to "ASDB policy", "Schools officials" to "Lead school officials", Caps to

Old Code	New Code	Title	Revision Type	Summary of Revisions
				lower case, "Staff member" to "employee", "Principal" to "Principal/Director".